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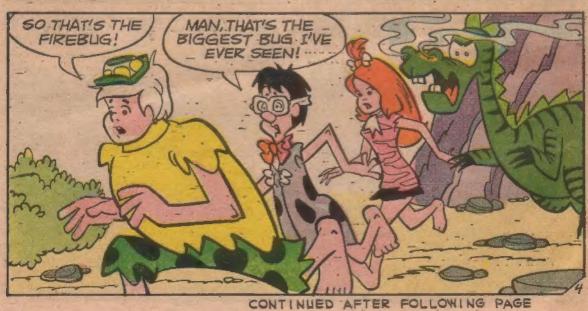
























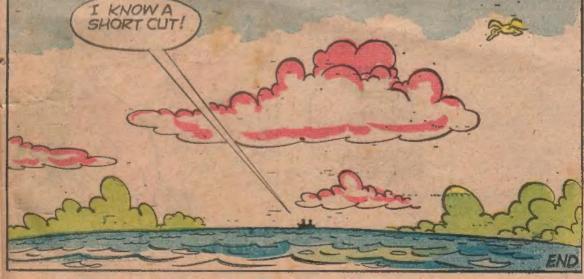
























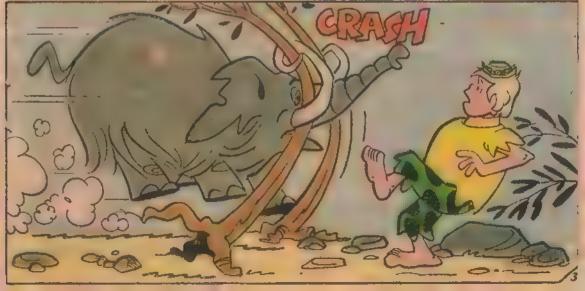


























































Pelly the Pigeon was the first to arrive at the Friday merning monthly meeting of the Inhabitants of Echo Lake and its vicinity. When they had all gathered there, she mounted the Big Rock and began the meeting:

"We are all here to listen to a complaint lodged against our dear friend, Square the Squirrel. It has been sent to us by the Commission to Protect the Rights of Human Beings. I have never heard before of this group, but I like the title. Maybe we will organize semathing similar. We can call it The Commission to Protect the Rights of Non-Human Beings. That should take in all the animals, the birds, the fish, and even the trees and plants. To begin with, there is a man. He lives in a very select community where there are a los of maple trees, apple trees and shrubbery. He claims that the squirrels have very sharp teeth, and they bere hales into the trees and thus damage them.

Now, it seems he has three children. They have met Square the Squirrel. They feed him peanuts and other Items of food. What has Square the Squirrel done in return for his kindness shown to him? He has caused a lot of damage by eating holes in the cedar-planked gables of the home of this nice family. So, you can figure out at once that it is the father of the family who has made this complaint. Tell us, Square the Squirrel, what have you to say for yourself?"

"I am entitled to an attorney," began the squirrel,
"and it is up to you to furnish one forme free of charge
because I have no money. I am a pauper."

"What's a pauper?" asked Tillie the Trout who was In Etho Lake and heard everything. "Square is a equirel, not a pauper."

"A pauper is somebody who is brake," said Snikle the Snake. "But, I think our squired friend is very rich. He had hidden a fortune in peasure. So, let him pay for an attorney."

"I will be his attorney free of charge," offered Chippy the Chipmunk, "for its has been very kind to me. When I was hungry, he gave me peanute and even same shelled walnuts."

"I accept your offer," said the squire!. "May I point out that I do have pointed teeth, and I merely use the teeth. That is why Mother Nature gave them to me. Leek at human beings. They have lungs. They use these lungs. They take in nice clean air and then they

pollute our atmosphere. I would like to bring a counter charge against the person complaining against me."

"Yes, a counter charge," said Chippy the Chipmunk, "According to section 7, line 10, subdivision 63, of the amendments to section 12 line 15, subdivision 84, which in turn supersedes section 19, line 67, subdivision 99, we have the right to do this."

"I would like to say something," interrupted Rara the Rabbit. "My friend, Square the Squirrel, has the right to face his accuser. We want a summons served on the man who made this complaint. Let him come here. Face to face with our friend, let him repeat his charges. But, where is his evidence?"

"Where is his evidence?" also said Flussie the Fly, "I know the house where these people live. Five times that man tried to kill me with a fly swatter. Is he fair to the? I am willing to prepare a complaint against him."

"Three cheers for such courage," said Tatto the Turfle. "Just imagine somebody making a complaint against me on the ground that I am very slow. I say that we ignore the complaint and on legal grounds at that. The humans have no jurisdiction over us. We were on this Earth before they were."

"I am not certain who come here first," admitted Chippy the Chipmunk "like asking who came first: The egg or the chicken? I say that my friend has a kind heart. Ithink I can prove it. For I now ask him to tell you that he will stop drilling holes into wood with his sharp teeth."

"He has been unable to drill any holes into my trunk," said the Big Oak Tree "That is because I am so strong and sturdy. So why doesn't that man who made the complaint use stronger wood or he could even use coment. That would be the end of the squirrel's teeth if he tried to drill a hole into coment."

"Without admitting anything and standing on my constitutional rights," soid Square the Squirrel, "I will make this promise. In return for feeding me, I promise not to drill holes into anything that belongs to that man."

"Fine, fine," said Polly the Pigeon "The meeting is now adjourned. Somehow we have to figure out how to inform that man about what we did in regard to his complaint."

















